

**2/26/03**

**CONNECTIONS Build 15 Edits and ICPC Out of State Foster and Adoptive Homes**

As we previously informed you in May 2002, included in Build 15 were system edits that brought the CONNECTIONS Application in line with existing regulatory requirements for foster and adoptive homes. As previously referenced in our May 2002 communication, ICPC Out of State Foster/Adoptive Homes are not subject to New York State certification requirements i.e. fingerprints and medical exams; however with the implementation of CONNECTIONS Build 15 in May 2002, a date in these fields is required for Out of State Homes even though the information is not applicable. Shortly after Build 15 was implemented, an issue was identified involving children from New York State being placed in ICPC Out of State Foster/Adoptive Homes and the relationship of these homes to Build 15 edits (requiring fingerprint and medical dates). To resolve this issue, an interim workaround procedure was employed instructing workers to enter 01/01/01 in the date fields, followed by a system data fix whereby the date fields were cleared.

Based on recent inquiries from several foster care agencies regarding continued problems with the Build 15 edits, our tech team has examined the current code/edits and has identified that the Build 15.1 data fix only covered initial home openings. The code was not adjusted for re-authorizations. To alleviate this problem, workers should employ a similar workaround procedure to the one that is referenced above, until a long term solution is provided, (see bullet below):

- For re-authorizations, workers should continue entering a date, but should use **01/01/2003** instead. This will allow the re-certification to go through. Our current plan is to run a data fix similar to the first datafix (Build 15.1) to remove the '01/01/2003' date. The data fix will be scheduled at a later date to be determined.

If a New York child is placed in a home in another state, that home must meet the requirements of the receiving state. The home may be a foster home, an adoptive home, or a relative home for which the plan for the child is discharge from a foster home. If the home meets the requirements of the receiving state then it is deemed to meet the requirements of New York State. The receiving state would notify the New York Interstate Compact for Placement of Children (ICPC) with the submission of the ICPC form 100A. On this form is a check box that states, "placement may be made". If checked this will indicate that the receiving state has approved the home based on their state's requirements.

If you have questions about the above referenced workaround please contact the New York State Office for Technology Enterprise Help Desk 1-800-NYS-1323. Any questions about Interstate Compact for Placement of Children should be directed to OCFS Family Placement Unit Staff per regular procedures.